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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/858,477 ✓	
	Filing Date	May 17, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Akira Sekine	
	Group Art Unit	1743	
	Examiner Name	Yelena G. Gakh	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	H6810.0021/P021

OCT 28 2003
GROUP 1700

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ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
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<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	Response to Election of Species Requirement
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual Name	DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP Mark J. Thronson, Reg. No. 33,082	
Signature		
Date	October 22, 2003	



Docket No.: H6810.0021/P021
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Akira Sekine, et al.

Art Unit: 1743

Application No.: 09/858,477

Examiner: Yelena G. Gakh

Filed: May 17, 2001

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT OF
CHEMICAL MATERIALS

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RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 25, 2003, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-18, for continued examination.

This election is made with traverse. The Examiner has required restriction between Group I, claims 1-18, drawn to a method for management of chemical materials and Group II, claims 119-40, drawn to a system for management of chemical materials.

M.P.E.P. § 803 provides as follows: "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." Applicants respectfully submit that the other claims in this case can be examined together with the Group II claims without "serious burden."

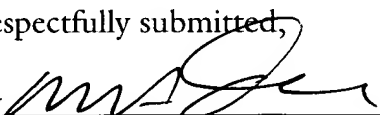
Please also note that claims 39 and 40 are method claims. Claims 39 and 40 are not drawn to a system for management of chemical materials as the Office Action asserts.

Favorable action on the application is solicited.

October 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By



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